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DE RUEHNR #2513 3040357
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7478
INFO RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY 0283
RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI PRIORITY 5432

UNCLAS NAIROBI 002513

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER PREL CASC SO

SUBJECT: ATTACKS IN PUNTLAND AND SOMALILAND

REF: DCM SLUTZ-OPSCTR TELCON

11. Earlier today, in seemingly coordinated attacks, bombs exploded at public and foreign facilities in Bosaaso, Puntland and Hargeysa, Somaliland. In Bosaaso, two Puntland Intelligence Service (PIS) facilites were hit. In Hargeysa, the Ethiopian mission, the UNDP office and the Somaliland Presidential compound were hit. The bombings appear to have been caused by vehicle-born devices. At this time, we are not aware that any group has claimed responsibility for the attacks. No AMCIT casualties have been reported. Ethiopian President Meles confirmed to A/S Frazer in Nairobi (both are here for the IGAD conference on Somalia) that three Ethiopian officials at their mission in Hargeysa were killed. Media reports indicate that some 22 have died and another 50 or so were wounded in Hargeysa; we understand the French military are medivac-ing some of the wounded to Djibouti. In Bosaaso, we can confirm 2 PIS officials dead and 7 wounded. RANNEBERGER